

**REMARKS**

Claims 20-33 are pending. By this response, claim 20 is amended. Reconsideration and allowance based on the above amendments and following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 20-33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as not falling within one of the four statutory classes. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants note that independent claim 20 has been amended to address the statutory concern. Specifically, claims 20-23 define an image processing method. The method includes, *inter alia*, detecting an edge width and determining a localized conversion ratio. In addition, the method is carried out using one or more processors. Accordingly, the claimed method/process is statutory because it is not only tied to another statutory class of invention (i.e. a machine) but also because it transforms subject matter into a different state or thing inasmuch as it detects an edge width and determines a localized conversion ratio.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 20-33 claim statutory subject matter. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Applicants note that there are no further rejections or objections in the Office Action. Accordingly, with the amendments to the claims to address the statutory subject matter issue, the application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance is earnestly solicited.


Conclusion

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Chad J. Billings Reg. No. 48,917 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: April 2, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

By   
Chad J. Billings

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